

a key, associated with a household, to be used to encrypt and decrypt media content at the household that is associated with the household; and

a memory unit, the memory unit including,

a user-specific information storage section to store user preferences,

and

a data storage section to store data that is expected to be of value to a

user.

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9. (Twice Amended) A smart card comprising:

a key, associated with one particular household, to be used to encrypt and decrypt media content that is associated with the one particular household and that is to be rendered at the one particular household, but not to encrypt and decrypt media content associated with other households; and

a data storage section to store data that is expected to be of value to a user.

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21. (Three Times Amended) A method of decrypting media content, the method comprising:

checking whether a portable integrated circuit device is authorized to decrypt the media content, wherein the portable integrated circuit device stores a decryption key and additional data;

determining that the portable integrated circuit device is authorized to decrypt the media content only if data other than electronic money is stored as the additional data on the portable integrated circuit device, wherein the data is

expected to be of value to a user, and wherein the data is not used to decrypt the media content; and

decrypting the media content only if the portable integrated circuit device is authorized to decrypt the media content.

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22. (Amended) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising determining that the portable integrated circuit device is authorized to decrypt the media content if at least a threshold amount of electronic money is available on the portable integrated circuit device.

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24. (Amended) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:  
checking whether the portable integrated circuit device is authorized to encrypt media content; and  
encrypting the media content only if the portable integrated circuit device is authorized to encrypt the media content.

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C5

26. (Twice Amended) A system comprising:  
a plurality of smart cards, each to be used for encrypting different categories of multimedia presentations; and  
an encryption module coupled to receive a multimedia presentation and encrypt, at the user's home, the multimedia presentation based on a key maintained on one of the plurality of smart cards.

27. (Amended) A system as recited in claim 26, further comprising a decoding module, coupled to receive the encrypted multimedia presentation, decrypt the encrypted multimedia presentation, decode the decrypted multimedia presentation, and transmit the decoded multimedia presentation to a rendering module.

C5  
28. (Amended) A system as recited in claim 26, wherein one of the categories of multimedia presentations comprises family-oriented media content and another of the categories of multimedia presentations comprises adult-oriented media content.

29. (Twice Amended) A method of allowing parental control over media content, the method comprising:

receiving, at a household, media content;

encrypting, at the household, the received media content based on a household identifier corresponding to a smart card, wherein the household identifier is associated with one household; and

requiring the smart card to be present to decrypt and render the media content.

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C6  
34. (Twice Amended) A method of allowing parental control over media content, the method comprising:

comparing a rating corresponding to the media content to a rating associated with a smart card; and

allowing access to the media content if the rating corresponding to the media content does not exceed the rating associated with the smart card, wherein a plurality of ratings do not exceed the rating associated with the smart card, and wherein the allowing access comprises allowing the media content to be encrypted, at a user's home, for subsequent processing.

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C1 38. (Amended) One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by a computing device, causes the computing device to perform acts including:

receiving, at a household, media content;

controlling, at the household, encryption of the received media content based on a household identifier corresponding to a smart card; and

maintaining user preferences information on the smart card, the user preferences information being available only when the smart card is coupled to the computing device.

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C8 40. (Twice Amended) A smart card comprising:

a key, associated with one particular household, to be used to encrypt and decrypt media content associated with the one particular household at the one particular household but not to encrypt and decrypt media content associated with other households; and

a user-specific information storage section to store user preferences.

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C9 45. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

maintaining, on an integrated circuit card, information regarding a user's preferences corresponding to media content; and

maintaining, on the integrated circuit card, a key to be used to encrypt and decrypt media content associated with one particular household at the one particular household but not to encrypt and decrypt media content associated with other households.

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50. (Twice Amended) A method of identifying boundaries of a network of devices, the method comprising:

encrypting, at a single house, media content based on an identifier corresponding to a plurality of smart cards; and

limiting rendering of the media content to a network of devices to which the plurality of smart cards are coupled, wherein the network of devices is maintained within the single house.

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